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Wed.
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DEPARTMENT OF STATE
WASHINGTON
January 23, 1959

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

Subject: Visit of Willy Brandt, Mayor of Berlin

Willy Brandt, Governing Mayor of Berlin, will be in Washington during the second week of February. His visit here will be part of a round-the-world trip for the purpose of obtaining foreign public and political support for Berlin in the current crisis. In the United States, he will spend two days in New York, attend the 150th Lincoln Anniversary dinner given by Governor Stratton at Springfield, Illinois and visit some other cities, including Los Angeles, briefly before proceeding to Japan.

A program in Washington is being arranged by the German Embassy with the assistance of the Department, and I hope that it will be possible for you to see Mayor Brandt as a contribution to world understanding of the firmness of our support for Berlin. The most suitable time would be the morning of Wednesday, February 11, if that is convenient for you.

You will remember from your talk with Brandt on February 11 last year that he is one of the most energetic and effective of the younger political leaders in Germany. Throughout the recent difficulties over Berlin he has shown most commendable coolness and courage and his election victory of December 7 under the shadow of Soviet threats was an impressive example of his leadership in Berlin affairs.

If it is possible for you to see him, I will furnish you with additional briefing material prior to the interview to take account of the more recent developments regarding Berlin.


John Foster Dulles